



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND | MARYLAND FIRE AND RESCUE INSTITUTE

2011 FY ANNUAL REPORT

MFRI North East Regional Training Center Completes Construction

On September 10, 2011 the long awaited construction of the new North East Regional Training Center at the Edgewood area of the Aberdeen Proving Ground will be complete and Wallace Loh, President, UMCP will dedicate the Center. This \$8.3 million project will replace the ageing center located at the Aberdeen area of APG. The relocation was necessary due to a new military vehicle test track that surrounds the existing location making access a significant challenge. Since the approval of the funding of this project by the General Assembly, MFRI and UMCP Department of Capital Projects have been working with US Army representatives at APG to conduct the relocation and construction of the new NERTC. The architectural firm of Edmeades & Stromdahl of Bel Air, Maryland was selected as the design consultants and J. Vinton Schafer & Sons, Abington, Maryland was contracted to provide construction management for the project.

During both the design phase and construction period MFRI worked closely with UMCP Facilities Management, primarily responsible for the project construction, US Army APG, and local emergency services to provide input to the construction team to ensure the project was completed in a timely manner and on budget. The management crew from J. Vinton Schafer & Sons did an outstanding job of coordinating the construction of a complex project on a very challenging site.

This project uses many of the features of the Southern Maryland Regional Training Center at LaPlata, which is the most recent regional center constructed, completed in 2003. In addition the new North East Regional Training Center will include a number of updated props and features, including improved flammable liquids simulation, an automotive fire prop, improved exterior student staging/instructional area, and an additional high-temperature room in the burn building.

As train travelers make their way from Baltimore, DC and points south to Philadelphia, New York and other northeastern cities they can glance to the east and see the newest MFRI gem on the shores of Lauderick Creek.



NIMS IC Center

This fiscal year saw another milestone in MFRI's quest to provide training critical to operational success of today's responders. On February 8, 2011, the first class was held in the new Incident Command Simulation Center (ICSC) at College Park. Since then, the center has remained busy, averaging several classes a week.

The ICSC occupies existing building space became available after the relocation of some operations. Using mainly MFRI personnel, the area was given a total facelift and equipped with the latest simulation software, computers, large TV screens, and other tools. Students manage simulated incidents (fires, floods, tornadoes, etc.) from several areas where they see only their part of the incident, just as in real life. Realistic pictures incorporating smoke and fire, sounds, clip art, and other features bring the incidents to life. Students practice communications using portable radios, incident command tactics and strategies, resource allocation, and many other skills vital to incident management.

INCIDENT COMMAND SIMULATION CENTER



Statistics FY 2011



Emergency Services Programs	1,630
Field Programs Section	1,068
Special Programs Section	274
Company Drills	195
Seminars	93

Students by Program	34,061
Field Programs Section	23,399
Special Programs Section	5,897
Company Drills	2,510
Seminars	2,255

Student Hours by Program	866,673
Field Programs Section	760,438
Special Programs Section	75,922
Company Drills	9,978
Seminars	20,335

Students by Discipline	34,061
Fire	6,447
EMS	6,193
ALS	2,273
Rescue	2,451
Management	4,409
Hazardous Materials	2,784
Specialty	4,739
Company Drills	2,510
Seminars	2,255

Medical Clearance

Beginning July 1, 2011, the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute initiated a new Health and Safety program to help ensure that students engaged in training requiring strenuous activity or the use of self-contained breathing apparatus are medically capable of engaging in these activities. Specific classes requiring medical clearance include: Firefighter I, Firefighter II, Firefighter Survival and Rescue, Hazardous Materials Technician, Confined Space and Swiftwater rescue. Medical clearance can be obtained in a variety of ways: 1) departmental physical examinations; 2) personal physicians; or 3) the completion of an on-line medical questionnaire available on the student zone at MFRI's web site. Following the completion of this confidential questionnaire, it will be reviewed under the direction of MFRI's medical director. This review will result in one of two findings: 1) the student is authorized to participate in the class; or 2) additional evaluation is required by the individual's personal physician. In instances when additional evaluation is required, financial support may be requested (following the successful completion of the class) not to exceed \$75.00. We are hopeful that this new program will serve as a major milestone in our efforts to help ensure the health and well-being of our students.

Firefighter Cadet Training Program

MFRI Enters Into High School Cadet Program Agreement

The Maryland State Department of Education's Center for Technology and Education (CTE), the Maryland State Fireman's Association (MSFA) and the Institute entered into an agreement in March regarding the administration of Fire and Emergency Services High School Cadet Programs. The agreement provides a template for each local school board, local fire association/department and MFRI to agree to the conditions by which these valuable programs are administered. The duties and responsibilities of each organization are specified in the agreement and should eliminate some past confusion that has occurred from time to time. "I would like to personally thank Dan Stevens representing the MSFA Training Committee, CTE Director Jeanne-Marie Holly and Larry Preston of MFRI for their efforts in establishing this much needed framework," stated Director Edwards.

A large, dramatic image showing the silhouette of a firefighter in the foreground, looking out over a massive fire that fills the background with intense orange and yellow flames.

New MFRI Classes

Fire Officer I revision

Firefighter I revision

First Responder — ASHI

(American Safety & Health Institute)

First Responder Refresher — ASHI

Protective Envelope and Foam

Rescue Tech — Swiftwater Rescue Technician

Simulation Center Overview

Simulation Center for the Fire and Rescue Service

